

GREENBELT News Review

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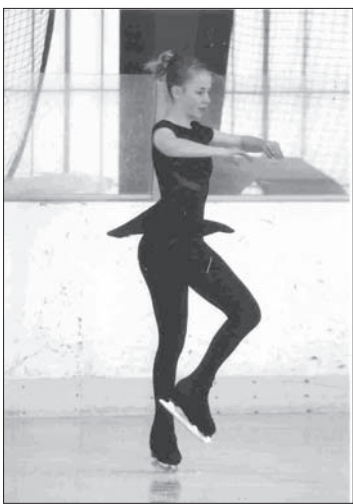
15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

FEBRUARY 24, 2005

Greenbelt Skater Enjoyed Long Island Performance

by Jim Lara

When she was six years old, Alice Murphy took up ice skating at the suggestion of her mother, who thought it could be a nice extra-curricular activity. But it was three years later when Murphy wanted to learn skating professionally that she took private lessons. The hard work culminated for the 15-year-old in her selection to skate at a benefit performance in New York this past December.



Greenbelter Alice Murphy, 15, has been perfecting her talents for the past nine years.

Like any beginner, Murphy had slip-ups of falling down on the ice but eventually she settled down and learned to do different things. She had a coach at age 10 who taught her various movements, such as jumps while skating forward and backward. Murphy started practicing two to three days a week for an hour after school and now does it five days a week.

According to Murphy, who is

a sophomore at Eleanor Roosevelt High School and a Lakeside Drive resident, it was tough putting in the extra time practicing in addition to going to school but she's adjusted to it. During the past few years she has participated in competitions around the area with other local skaters. She says that she doesn't get pre-performance jitters. "Usually before I step on the ice, I just think how cold it is out there and how dorky I might look in my outfit," said Murphy, laughing about it.

The performance that Murphy was honored to be part of was the third annual Stars, Stripes and Skates tribute in Long Island, N.Y. The event was created to pay respect to the families affected by the 9/11 attacks. Proceeds went to 9/11 Families Give

See MURPHY, page 9

Mother of Eagles Player Talks about Her Son

by Matt Johnson

Of the many fast food managers who work 50-hour weeks to keep their stores functioning and bacon on their family tables, a notable standout is the mother of Derrick Burgess, defensive end of the Philadelphia Eagles.

Meet Boston Market manager and Greenbelter Priscilla Burgess, 45 years old and mother of two. Her eldest, Derrick, was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles and now starts for the team as defensive end. This year's Super Bowl was a tight match-up ending with the New England Patriots edging out their feathered foes 24-21. Mother Burgess did not attend. "I had tickets, but I didn't go because I'm afraid of flying," she said.

Instead, Mother Burgess stayed home with her grandchildren – Derrick's month-old son and four-year-old daughter. The kids were dressed in the jersey of their father, number 56, watching as he battled the defending world champion in the biggest game of his NFL career.

With pride, Burgess admitted that she scans the television screen looking for her son no matter what is going on during the game. She said it's hard to believe Derrick's playing with "the big guys" such as Emmitt



Priscilla Burgess is the proud mother of Philadelphia Eagle's defensive end Derrick Burgess.

Smith and Donovan McNabb. She mentioned Smith because she was a Dallas Cowboys fan before her son entered the NFL.

"Derrick used to like the [Washington] Redskins and his father liked the [Miami] Dolphins," she said. The family was united on draft day 2001 when Derrick was claimed as the Eagles' first overall pick in the third round. "Everybody loves the Eagles now," she said.

Draft day for the Burgess family was reminiscent of the 2004 movie "The Cookout." The family gathered in the backyard of their Riverdale home for a big

See BURGESS, page 6



Designer Needed For Memorial

The city is seeking professionals with experience in exhibit design, architecture and the arts to plan and oversee construction of a community memorial to honor Greenbelters who demonstrated a high level of service, dedication and commitment to the community. The project has become known as the "wall of honor."

The Greenbelt Community Center has been chosen as the site for this commemorative list of honoree names displayed on a large sculpture or plaque. The preferred location is a first-floor elevator vestibule.

Three second-choice locations are: a site on the front lawn that would also require an indoor kiosk to provide information about each honoree, the rear wall of the Community Meeting Room or the Community Center lobby.

Selection Criteria

The city reserves the right to reject all submissions. Responses to the call for designers will be evaluated using criteria that include: description of design and construction management process; knowledge of the City of Greenbelt and this memorial project; experience with design processes including community input; project team composition, credentials and experience in designing and implementing community memorials; the estimated total cost for the design work and project management and proposed completion schedule.

Questions should be addressed to David Moran, assistant city manager, by phone at 301-474-8000 or by email at dmoran@ci.greenbelt.md.us.

What Goes On

Monday, February 28 7:30 p.m., Advisory Committee on Trees meeting, Community Center
8 p.m., Regular meeting of City Council, Municipal Building
Thursday, March 3 7:30 p.m., Council worksession with GEAC (stakeholders), Hunting Ridge



PHOTO BY PAM HAGERSHORST

Members of Greenbelt Pottery creating bowls for the Empty Bowls Project.

Local Potters Make Bowls As Benefit for Food Bank

by Carol Griffith

Greenbelt's first annual Empty Bowls Project will be presented by Greenbelt Pottery, Inc., on Saturday, March 12 from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Church. A ticket purchased in advance from members of Greenbelt Pottery will provide a choice of bowl, made by the group for diners to keep, and a simple meal of soup, bread, a light dessert and beverage.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Help-by-Phone, a non-profit organization that has served Prince George's County by providing emergency food and shelter for nearly 38 years.

Diane McDaniel, a member of Greenbelt Pottery had the idea for this charitable project. Assisted by fellow member Carol Wisdom, a graphic artist by profession, McDaniel made tickets and posters and sent letters to Greenbelt

Interfaith Leadership Association to promote the event. Jeri Holloway was instrumental in arranging for the event to take place at the Community Church and in choosing the charity the event would benefit.

The 15 to 20 members of Greenbelt Pottery with some assistance from other potters, are making approximately 230 bowls for the event. Even with 200 tickets for sale, diners will be able to choose their souvenir bowl.

Each bowl is unique in appearance, even among those created by the same artist. Some are hand-built, others wheel-thrown; some have a decorative edge or design and all are glazed and stamped with the Empty Bowls logo. The time

See BOWLS, page 6

Greenbelt Supports Bill To Lower Electric Costs

Greenbelt Assistant City Manager David Moran joined representatives of 11 other municipalities in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties at a meeting to support proposed Maryland legislation on electricity rates. The legislation would allow municipalities to use the purchasing power of a large group to negotiate lower electricity rates for their residents.

Officials from Greenbelt, Rockville, Laurel, Takoma Park, Gaithersburg, College Park, Kensington and several other municipalities met to sign a Municipal Aggregation Letter of Interest at the Takoma Park City Council Chambers on February 15. Several other representatives, including Greenbelt Mayor Judith Davis, went to Annapolis to testify in support of Senate Bill 39, Electric Industry – Aggregation – Counties and Municipal Corporations.

Frederick Smalls, president of Prince George's County Muni-

pal Association (PGCMA) and councilmember from Laurel, stated, "As a Maryland Municipal League priority, the PGCMA fully supports this enabling legislation. By removing the current prohibition of local governments, we may be able to explore benefits to our constituents with lower energy costs and improved service offerings which are becoming available through deregulation and competition in the electric industry."

Senate Bill 39 and the similar House Bill 670 would allow municipalities to negotiate and purchase electricity on behalf of citizens using the method known as "opt-out" aggregation. If a municipality chooses to become an aggregator, its residents would be included in the aggregation pool unless they inform the local government of their desire to opt out.

See ELECTRIC, page 9

Letters

THANKS

The Blood Drive on February 22 at the Municipal Building was again a success. Thanks to all the donors. Also, thanks to the Red Cross personnel and the volunteers, who, as usual, performed services in an outstanding manner.

The next blood drive will be held on Friday, April 29 at the Community Center from noon to 6 p.m.

Call Janet Goldberg at 301-397-2212 to make a reservation if you have not been contacted by the Red Cross. Walk-ins will be accepted to fill spaces for people who did not make their appointments.

Janet Goldberg
Recreation Coordinator

HSI's Disaster Fund Needs Donations

In the wake of the massive tsunami that hit coastlines across southeast Asia, Humane Society International (HSI), the international arm of the Humane Society of the United States, is working with local officials to provide relief for animals in the affected areas.

The HSI Asia director is on the ground in Indonesia reviewing the most immediate animal needs in the hardest hit areas. Currently, food, water and shelter for displaced animals appear to be the most urgent needs. HSI is receiving monetary donations to support local partners in Asia to rescue and care for animals. Tax-deductible gifts will be used to support disaster relief and other animal disasters worldwide.

Donations may be sent to HSUS, Dept. DRF-Online, 2100 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20037. Checks should be made payable to The HSUS Worldwide Disaster Fund. For more information go to <http://www.hsiasia.org>.

Cam MacQueen

Arboretum Displays Rare Plants of Japan

Explore botanical art on exhibit at the U.S. National Arboretum from "Endangered Plants of Japan: a Florilegium," a collection of portraits of 182 of Japan's rarest plants. In this, the first American venue of the traveling exhibit, the arboretum showcases 72 of the paintings, half on display March 1 through April and the remaining half on exhibit from May through June. Display hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily for this free exhibit. Visit <http://www.usna.usda.gov> or call 202-245-4523 for more information.

OLD GREENBELT THEATRE

Week of Feb. 25

THE AVIATOR (PG-13)

Friday
*4:30, 8:00

Saturday
*1:00, *4:30, 8:00

Sunday
*1:00, *4:30, 8:00

Monday-Thursday
*4:30, 7:45

*These shows at \$5.00

301-474-9744 • 301-474-9745
129 Centerway
www.pgtheatres.com

Greenbelt Elementary Names Honor Rolls

Greenbelt Elementary hosted an honor roll ceremony on January 7 for the parents of third grade through sixth grade students demonstrating exceptional performance for the second grading period of the school year. Twenty students made the A average Honor Roll. The only student from the sixth grade on this list is Caitlin Cummings.

Fifth grade students on the A average list were: Debbie Fishbeck, Houman Qadir and Erin Weeks. Fourth grade students making A averages were: Albert Huang, Raphael Knott, Aldijah Koeiman and Neelanjan Lakshman. Twelve third graders had A averages: Toni Clayton, Sean Dabbs, Zhao Xiong Ding, Jaylen Isaac, Min Kang, Jason Knott, Jordan Lowery, Rajesh Nair, Shawn Neary, Tricia Restum, Sydney Siegel and Lucy Xu.

The B average Honor Roll was large, with 141 students achieving this honor. Seventeen sixth graders had B averages: Shanay Campbell, Christopher Dotson, Tera Ford, David Henriquez, Ricardo Humes, Janet Jones, Zeki Kelton, Ryan Mattox, Drew Matzo, Anthony Nhe, Ashley Perry, Marco Ralph, Eric Redd, Aqiyla Romano, Tyler Siegel, Eirin Stevenson and Tierra White. The following fifth graders made the B average list: Esmond Aguilera II, Pierce Barnett, Amanda Beavers, Laetitia Beyegue, Derrick Bradshaw, Monae Brown, Devrick Brown, Quentin Brown, Makayla Bryan, Bryan Coates, Lyden Collins, Tai'ja Cook-Cooper, Bria Cromartie, Mavis Dompree, Patrick Felsher, Kiara Hill, Joseph Joshua, Lawrence Klaess, Sharde Majors, Rajean Manueal, Arnel Mbah, Chelsey Murphy, Joshua Ntoko, Jordan Paramore, Jordan Proctor, Paris Purdie, Felicia Ralph, Thomas Ramberg, Janaysha Ratliff, Skyler Rowe, Masia Rucker, Melody Sadler, Mauro Sasia, Gina Scott, William Scott, Danielle Sherman, Elan Spector, Stephanie Steinbach, Amber Turner, Briana Way, Aminah Williams, Alysha Wilson and Ryan Yudhistira.

Fourth graders on the B average Honor Roll were: Bassam Abbas, Casey Ables, Jazmine Acevero, Aisha Ameir, Shakea Anderson, Floriane Beyegue, Asia Bryant, Elisabeth Commins, Gabriel Costen, Jessamyn Daniel, Ali Dar, Enewa Emaikwu, Daniel Faison, Keona Gardner, Nathalie Hamlin, Dana Holland, Tylib Jones, John Majors, Gibril Mambouray, Mildred Mensah, Alexis Mosley, Shonte Moten, Terry Nance II, Kevin Perea, Freddy Ramirez, Sequoia Ray, Frantz Sabbat, Nivene Sayyad, Mario Sequeira III, Elana Shipley, Bryant Sterling, E-Leayah Swann, Jodi Wildoner, Tori Williams, Joseph Wise and Gabriel York.

Third graders on the B average Honor Roll were: Tamara Adams, Tayon Adams, Bryce Andrews, Gianni Augustus-Poston, Cierra-Marie Bingham, Dane'e Brown, Davonte Brown, Avani Bryson, Aaron Butler, Tamara Carrion, Dallas Cartwright, Stacey Chaney, Walter Commins, Jasmine Dailey, Rachel Dwivedi, Jasper Greene, Timothy Greene, Brit-tany Hall, Ariel Hampton, Jazzmin House, Tranay Hunter, Jahair Jones, Katelynn Long, Saadiq Louisy, Devonte Manuel, Daimond McIntosh, William McMillian, Shannon Miller, Kamara Mohammed, April Nhe, Jasmine Okosun, Eboni Onuoha, Jonathan Polo, Evelyn Reyes, Yah Assanthe Severin, Aamon Smith, Acheanyi Talieh, Jonathan Tayviah, Lilian Tlatenco, Raquel Velez, Jalen Verrett, Daniel Viscarra, Trequon Wallace, Ashely Woods and Sofia Zocca.

A final category for the honor roll were students earning citizenship awards. Twenty-three students achieved this honor. Students recognized from the sixth grade were Jessica Fordyce-Bindah, Roberto Martinez and Stanaja Murphy; from the fifth grade, Stephanie Enwerem, Jimmy Lopez, Nyrisha Manning, Hannah Silver, Grace Taylor-Loring and Samuel Vasquez; from the fourth grade, Aminata Aladdin, Isatu Barry, Dajah Duckett, Georgia Edet, Czyz Glover, Niani McMillan, Douglas Quntanilla and Victor Wainwright; and from the third grade, Najah Cross, Garrett Green, Christopher Manzur, Crystal Morehead, Abimbola Oyewole and Amanda Paige.

The Law Offices of
McAndrew, Zitver & McGrath, P.A.
are pleased to announced that they
have relocated to

Maryland Trade Center I
7500 Greenway Center Drive
Suite 600
Greenbelt, MD 20770-3502
301-220-3111
E-mail: Attorneys@mzmlaw.net

The firm's partners, Patrick J. McAndrew, Murray A. Zitver and Terrence M. McGrath have extended their practice areas to include personal injury litigation, bankruptcy, estate & trust planning, probate, real estate transactions and general litigation as well as the representation of public safety employees and their families.

Supporters Rush to Appeal ERHS Coach's Suspension

by Jim Giese

Controversy continues to embroil the Prince George's County school system over the recent suspension and possible dismissal of the highly successful Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) basketball coach, Glen Farello. Farello was suspended with pay for the remainder of the basketball season on January 25 over an incident that took place March 1, 2004, when he reportedly provided his team players with a sports drink supplement, EM-PACT.

A lawsuit filed November 12 seeking damages of \$25,000 by Cassandra Samuels alleges that her son, Matt – Roosevelt's leading scorer that season – was hospitalized after consuming the drink, according to a Washington Post January 26 story by Josh Barr. The basis for the suspension by school Principal Sylvester Conyers, following a meeting with senior school administrators, is a violation of the intent of the school system's rules prohibiting the administration of medications, the article reported. Subsequently, school officials drafted a policy under review by attorneys that would also ban employees from dispensing or recommending that students consume performance-enhancing supplements such as steroids, androstenedione, caffeine and creatine. According to Rebecca Sanchez, Customer Service Department of Manatech, Inc., EM-PACT contains a small amount of creatine, comparable to that consumed by eating a serving of meat or fish.

Supporters of Farello will be appearing at today's meeting of the Prince George's Board of Education to seek his reinstatement as coach. Organized by Alick Dearie, ERHS graduate and former varsity player. Dearie is now a volunteer assistant boy's basketball coach for the school. The group contends that the coach violated no rules and that no adverse action was taken against him until there was publicity in the Maryland Journal and other newspapers in January of this year although administrators were aware of the incident last spring. They also contend that newspaper accounts exaggerated the use of EM-PACT as a creatine supplement, noting that the drink's purpose is to combat dehydration. They also contend that the family filing the suit has been feuding with the coach over the handling of their son as a player. They also claim that the symptoms reported that resulted in Samuel's brief hospitalization, cramps and nausea, were the result of dehydration or failure to take sufficient liquids and that Samuels was able to attend practice the next day.

As a contract "emergency" coach, Farello is not a teacher and works only part-time in that capacity. His supporters contend, however, that he has worked many extra hours to make certain that the ERHS players pursued their education, made contact with coaches at the college level who could provide college-level scholarships and helped to get players into summer basketball camps.

According to Barr's story, Conyers declined to comment on whether the suspension would affect Farello's prospects of returning to coach next year. These contracts are on a year-to-year basis.

Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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Eileen Farnham, president; James Giese, vice president; Diane Oberg, treasurer; Pat Davis, secretary; Virginia Beauchamp, Judy Bell and Al Geiger.

DEADLINES: Letters, articles and ads—10 p.m. Tuesday. Materials for publication may be mailed to address above, deposited in our box in the Co-op grocery store (by 7 p.m. Tuesday) or brought to our office in the Community Center, 15 Crescent Road, during office hours. Mail subscriptions—\$35/year.

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 8 - 10 p.m.

Review

Cherry’s “Joy Gods” Brings Tears and Joy to Audience

by Kristina Bigby

Aphrodite, Apollo and Dionysus are just a few of the Greek gods who graced us mere mortals with their presence last weekend. Okay, well not really but these are a few of the celestial characters in the play, “The Joy Gods Return.”

“The Joy Gods Return” is a musical written and directed by Chris Cherry, starring 30 teenagers, showing at the Greenbelt Arts Center. It is a modern day musical with old Broadway style and flair.

“Joy Gods” is an uplifting story about the return of joy to New York City. The play takes place in New York 2002, the year following the September 11 attacks. The central character is struggling young actress Felicity Knox.

Felicity’s fiancé, Tom, was an up-and-coming playwright who dies in the 9/11 attacks before his first show is produced. Fast forward a year later and Felicity is still trying to cope with Tom’s death. She decides the best way to honor his memory is to produce on Broadway the play Tom was working on prior to his death. Tom’s play is about Greek gods who come to New York during the Depression to spread joy and lift America out of the blues.

The Theme

“The Joy Gods Return” is a show within a show, seamlessly transitioning between New York 2002 and the depression era New York of Tom’s play. The theme of the show is that although we live in dangerous times, i.e. the era of terror, we don’t have to stop living. There is also a scathing critique of the media’s journalistic integrity. The play even takes a jab at America’s government. The play implies that the government helps contribute to the public’s feelings of being terrorized through constant terror alerts and seemingly false alarms. This comes out in the song “Department of Homeland Security” where the character exclaims, “I’m feeling a bit insecure.”

Cherry, who produces many local plays, was both writer and director. He had help from Stefan Brodd, musical director; Laura Schandelmeier, choreographer; Madeline Bell, assistant director/stage manager; and Jesse Goldberg-Strassler, assistant director/lighting.

The Mood

The mood of the play is communicated through the characters’ song and dance numbers. During the first act when characters are still very sad the musical numbers are more somber but after the intermission one can see and hear the joy returning to New York City because the musical numbers are more dynamic and inspiring.

The Talent

What makes the play so interesting is the talent of its young actors. Although all of the actors can sing, I found myself immediately blown away by Annie Loutsch who plays the central character Felicity. She has by far the strongest voice of the cast and an amazing stage presence that should serve her well in her acting career.

Loutsch was not the only bright spot in this play. Each teen did a great job helping the play run smoothly, not forgetting lines and expressing emotion. The person who completely sold his role was Michael DiMarco who plays Zack, the television news producer. This young Hugh Grant look-alike was animated, believable, funny and in short unforgettable. He might as well have picked up his scenes and put them in his pocket to take home because DiMarco stole every scene he was in that night.

The trio Loutsch, Mason Trappio and Marla Martin had a fantastic chemistry. They played the characters of Felicity, Miles and Marla respectively. Martin had the sassiest character of the three, and you knew it as soon as she hit the stage. She nailed her character’s personality. Cody Sanders, who plays Brian Banning, and Vikram Ivatury, who plays Dionysus, are also fun to watch.

The Audience

The audience was made up largely of family and friends. They loved the play, in part because they were watching their sons and daughters but also because this play has the power to make you laugh, think and cry. Michael Barnes, who played Tom, Felicity’s dead fiancé, moved his parents to tears during his solo performance of “It’s Time to Say Goodbye.”

This reviewer was pleasantly surprised at the amount of emotion Barnes and Loutsch demonstrated in their scenes together. Barnes plays Tom and he was largely in dream sequence scenes, which can typically be hard to sell. Together Loutsch and Barnes convincingly portrayed a strong love connection, lasting beyond death.

The Reviewer

This reviewer really enjoyed the play and related to the message. The songs were catchy and fun. There could have been more movement and dance. During most of the solos the actors seemed glued to their marks, moving slightly here and there but not always looking natural. During the ensemble scenes everyone seemed more comfortable and really let loose.

“The Joy Gods Return” has love lost, love found, joy lost and joy found, amidst a stirring tribute to New Yorkers and America in general. The play is sold out.

Community Events

Greenbelt Garden Plots Available

The Greenbelt Garden Club will hold its annual meeting March 16 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Greenbelt Police Station meeting room. Anyone interested in renting a plot for vegetable and/or flower gardening should attend the meeting, where 50’ x 50’ and 50’ x 25’ plots will be distributed. There is a rental fee for each plot.

Plots are distributed to new members on a first-come, first-served basis. Members who had a plot in 2004 get first preference on the plot they gardened.

If members are unable to attend the meeting but are interested in continuing gardening, they should call Dotty Esher at 202-624-7849 from 9 to 5 before March 16 to reserve their plot.

Exploring Jane Austen’s World

Explorations Unlimited will host a presentation by Maggie Auville on Friday, March 4 on what it was like to live in Jane Austen’s world. Austen’s lifespan, 1775 to 1818, was a time of tremendous growth and change in England. Her writing described with wicked wit and humorous understanding the society of the aristocratic class. Participants will hear what life in the 18th century was like, from teatime to transportation.

Explorations Unlimited is a speaker series held every Friday from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Greenbelt Community Center. This presentation will be in the Senior Classroom. Everyone is welcome to attend and questions are encouraged. Call 301-397-2208 for more information.

Isadora Duncan Style Coming to GAC

On Saturday, March 5 at 8 p.m. the Greenbelt Arts Center will host a presentation of the Isadora Duncan dance technique and new choreography in the Duncan style to contemporary music composed exclusively for the performance.

Complementary poetry and drama readings will be presented. Entitled “The Art of Isadora Duncan: Into the 21st Century,” the program highlights include: “Narcissus” and “Moment Musical” (music of Chopin and Schubert) performed by Duncan Dance soloist Valerie Durham, “Revolutionary” (music of Scriabin) danced by guest Duncan Dance soloist Robert Hoffman and “The Furies & The Blessed Spirits” and the “Bacchanale” (music of Gluck) performed by the ensemble.

New choreography in the Duncan style to the music of Tan Dun, Jean Michel Jarre and local composer James Durham will include “Night Fight” and “Revolutions.”

Isadora Duncan, known as the “mother of modern dance,” developed this technique 100 years ago by studying ancient Greek and Renaissance art, nature and universal movements of humanity.

For more information and for tickets contact the Duncan Dancers at 410-262-2490 or email tickets@duncandancers.com or visit the website at http://www.duncandancers.com.

Poetry Plus Meeting

“Poetry Plus,” a monthly gathering for poetry readings and discussion, is scheduled for Saturday, March 12 from 10:30 a.m. to noon in the Greenbelt Library. All are welcome and invited to bring copies of their own or others’ favorite poems.

This month’s topic is “Beat Poetry – Kerouac, et al.”

Videos to Be Shown At New Deal Café

Greenbelt Access Television, Inc. (GATE) will host another screening of video shorts at the New Deal Café in Roosevelt Center on March 2 at 8 p.m. The productions include a Brazilian music demonstration, scenes of Paris and experimental video, followed by a discussion on what local video/film makers are offering. Admission is free. For more information call GATE at 301-507-6581.

Menes to Speak At Mishkan Torah

Maryland Delegate Pauline Menes will speak at an open forum at Mishkan Torah on Sunday, February 27 at 1 p.m. Menes will discuss the history and up-to-the-minute actions of state government, including the Maryland budget, the slots proposal, medical malpractice insurance, education and other topics. Menes, first elected in 1967, is the longest continuously serving legislator in the Maryland General Assembly.

At the Library

Tuesday, March 1, 10:30 a.m. – Storytime for newborns to 23 months with caregiver, limit 15 babies.

Wednesday, March 2, 10:30 a.m. – Daytime Storytime for ages 24 to 36 months with caregiver, limit 15.

Thursday, March 3, 10:30 a.m. – Daytime Storytime for ages 3 to 5, limit 20.

Teeth Seminar Presented by GAIL

The Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) Program will present a seminar, “Let’s Talk Teeth” by Bunnie Bethea, registered dental hygienist. The seminar will be held on Tuesday, March 1 at 1 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room of Green Ridge House at 22 Ridge Road. All are welcome. To register call Belicia Swinson at 240-542-2036.

Beltway Plaza Holds Card Show

A baseball card show will be held all day from February 25 through 27 at Center Court in the Beltway Plaza Mall. Former Negro Leaguer Mamie “Peanuts” Johnson will be present along with former Washington Senator Fred Valentine. Visit to buy, sell or trade baseball cards.

Preventive Stroke Screenings Offered

Residents living in and around Greenbelt can be screened to help reduce the risk of stroke at the Community Center on February 28. Life Line screenings will begin by appointment at 9 a.m.

Stroke, also known as a “brain attack,” is ranked as the third leading killer in the world, the second among women. Through preventive screening, the risk of having a stroke can be greatly reduced.

Screenings are fast and painless. There is a fee. The screenings use ultrasound technology and scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries which can lead to a stroke, aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta and hardening of the arteries in the legs which are a strong predictor of heart disease.

Bone density screenings to assess risk for osteoporosis are also offered for an additional fee. Each screening requires 10 minutes or less to complete.

For information regarding the screenings or to schedule an appointment call Life Line 1-800-697-9721. Pre-registration is required.

Zane to Sign Book At Beltway Plaza

Local author Zane will appear at the Books-A-Million shop in Beltway Plaza on Friday, March 4 from 6 to 8 p.m. She will sign copies of her latest release, “Afterburn.”

INDOOR FLEA MARKET

Green Ridge House
22 Ridge Road

February 26,
10am until 2pm

Beltway Plaza Mall Celebrates BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Friday, Saturday, Sunday February 25, 26, 27
All Day at Center Court

BASEBALL CARD SHOW
Buy, Sell or Trade

Meet former Negro League player
Mamie "Peanuts" Johnson and
Fred Valentine, former Washington Senator



BELTWAY PLAZA

6000 Greenbelt Road
301-345-1500
www.beltwayplazamall.com

Target • Value City • Burlington Coat Factory • Giant Food • The Sports Authority • Marshall's
AMC Theatres • Jeepers • PetsMart • Gold's Gym • Jo-Ann Fabrics • CVS

Obituaries

Dottie Teske

Dottie Teske of Hillside Road died at home of cancer on February 12, 2005. She was under the care of Capital Hospice.

Born in College Park in 1926, she was a 50-year resident of Greenbelt. She modeled for Woodward and Lothrop in Prince George's County. Mrs. Teske loved children and animals. She was a babysitter for 30 years. Many of those children are now adults and showed their love by attending her funeral in large numbers.

She and Charles W. Teske were married at Holy Redeemer Church, Berwyn Heights. They raised three children.

Mr. Teske preceded her in death. She is survived by children Michael, Debbie and Jeff; daughter-in-law Ann Marie White Teske; two grandchildren Jennifer and Michael; and two sisters Lorraine H. Barrett and Josephine H. Mabry.

Memorial contributions may be made to Capital Hospice, 11700 Beltsville Drive, Beltsville, MD 20705.



Our Neighbors

Our sympathy to the family of longtime Greenbelter Dottie Teske who died February 12, 2005.

Navy Seaman Jeff M. Conley, a 1998 graduate of Eleanor Roosevelt High School, recently participated in "New Horizons," a U.S. Navy humanitarian assistance exercise in Haiti. Stationed on the amphibious assault ship USS Saipan, homeported in Norfolk, Conley and his shipmates delivered 1,200 tons of construction equipment and supplies for Seabees and U.S. Army Reserve MPs supporting the 90-day exercise. New Horizons will assist in the rebuilding of schools and wells and will also provide medical assistance to victims of Hurricane Jeanne.

Congratulations to proud grandparents Eddie and Peggy Byrd who are announcing the arrival of their second grandchild, first grandson Tobias (Toby) Jerome Yeager. Parents Wes and Lisa Yeager live in ElkrIDGE, Md. Toby weighed in at 5 lbs., 11 oz. on February 19, 2005, five weeks early.

Hospice Seeks New Volunteers

Hospice of the Chesapeake will offer a Volunteer Information Day for prospective volunteers on Saturday, March 12, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 8724 Jericho City Drive, Landover. Volunteer opportunities include patient care, bereavement support, office support and community outreach. In a relaxed and informal setting, hospice staff will discuss the various volunteer opportunities and answer questions. Refreshments will be served.

To register contact Julie Medlin by phone at 301-499-4500 or by email to jmedlin@hospicechesapeake.org.

"Buckle-up Bear" Visits St. Hugh's

"Buckle-Up Bear" and Traffic Officer Scott Kaiser visited St. Hugh's kindergartners, first and second graders on Valentine's Day to remind students to always use their booster seats. Each child received a certificate that had on it a Hershey Kiss, with the message to always use your booster seat so you can "Go home and kiss someone you love."

Motor vehicle crashes are the number one killer of children ages 2 to 14. "The use of belt-positioning booster seats lowers the risk of injury to children in crashes by 59 percent compared to the use of vehicle seat belts," states a study of children ages 4 through 7 by Partners for Child Passenger Safety, a State Farm-funded research project at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. This is the reason why the Greenbelt police joined the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Ad Council and others on Valentine's Day to commemorate National Child Passenger Safety Week (February 13 to 19) to place special emphasis on reminding all parents and other adults responsible for children traveling in motor vehicles, "if they are under 4'9", they need a booster seat."

While 94 percent of America's toddlers are now regularly restrained, only 10-20 percent of children ages 4 to 8 who should be using booster seats to protect them are actually in them. This puts children at an unnecessary risk of being injured or killed in crashes because they are simply in the wrong restraint for their size.


One study showed that children ages 2 to 5 who are moved to safety belts too early are four times more likely to sustain a serious head injury than those restrained in booster seats. In a crash, the shoulder strap of an adult safety belt will hit a child shorter than 4'9" across the neck or face rather than the chest and there is also a greater risk of internal injury because an adult lap belt hits across the child's stomach rather than his/her lap. These children need a booster seat which raises them up so that adult safety belts fit over their chests and hips properly and protect them in the event of a crash.

As children grow, how they sit in a car, truck, van or SUV should also change. For maximum child passenger safety, parents and caregivers need to remember and follow these steps. Use rear-facing infant seats in the back seat from birth to at least one year of age and at least 20 pounds. Use forward-facing toddler seats in the back seat from age one and 20 pounds to about age four and 40 pounds. Use booster seats in the back seat from about age four to at least age eight unless the child is 4'9" or taller. Use safety belts in the back seat at age eight or older or taller than 4'9". All children age 12 or younger should ride in the back seat.

Many parents are under the false impression that children who have outgrown child safety seats can move right into safety belts but nothing could be further from the truth. Safety belts, which are designed to fit adults, won't fully restrain a child in a crash. Using a booster seat will better protect a child from being thrown from the vehicle or thrown around inside it during a crash. For more information about the proper use of booster seats, visit <http://www.boosterseat.gov>.



Greenbelt Police Traffic Officer Scott Kaiser visits St. Hugh's School kindergartners, first and second graders with "Buckle-up Bear."



Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building


Baha'i Faith

"O people of the world, ye are all the fruit of one tree and the leaves of one branch. Walk with perfect charity, concord, affection, and agreement."
— Baha'u'llah

Greenbelt Baha'i Community
P.O. Box 245
Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-345-2918 301-220-3160
www.bahai.org www.us.bahai.org

Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church
40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt
301-474-9410 www.gb-gm-umc.org/mowatt

Rev. DaeHwa Park, Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 am Worship Service 11:00 am



PRAY for BRYAN

Paid Advertising

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church
3215 Powder Mill Road,
Beltsville/Adelphi (301-937-3666)
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
February 27, 10 a.m.
"What the World Needs Now"
Lynn Thomas Strauss, guest minister
with Jennifer Grant, worship associate
Religious Education on site, 10 a.m.
Barbara Wells ten Hove,
Jaco B. ten Hove,
co-ministers



HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
6905 Greenbelt Road • 301-345-5111


Sunday	8:00 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 9:15 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Worship Service Fellowship Sunday School Worship
Wednesday	12:15 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Lenten Service Evening Worship



Fax 301-220-0694 • E-mail myholycross@verizon.net

ST. HUGH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
135 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
301-474-4322

Mass Schedule:
Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 a.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
Daily Mass: 7:15 a.m.
Sacrament of Penance: Saturday 3:45-4:45 p.m.
Pastor: Fr. Walter J. Tappe
Pastoral Associate: Fr. R. Scott Hurd



Greenbelt Community Church
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Hillside & Crescent Roads
Phone: 301-474-6171 mornings
www.greenbelt.com/gccucc/
Sunday Worship 10:15 a.m.
Daniel Hamlin, Pastor


"A church of the open mind, the warm heart, the aspiring soul, and the social vision..."



GREENBELT BAPTIST CHURCH
Corner of Crescent and Greenhill Roads 301-474-4212
www.greenbeltbaptist.org greenbelt.baptist@verizon.net
Dr. Mark Johnson, Pastor

Sun. Worship 8:35 am, 11:00 am
Wed. Praise and Prayer 7:00 pm
Wed. Living Proof, Youth Event 7:00 pm

"Building Bridges to the Family of God thru the Love of Christ"



St. George's Episcopal/Anglican Church
7010 Glenn Dale Road
(Lanham-Severn Road & Glenn Dale Road)
301-262-3285 | rector@stgeo.org | www.stgeo.org

Sundays:	8:00 am	Simple, quiet Mass
	9:00 am	Christian education for all ages
	10:00 am	Sung Mass with organ and folk music, ASL interpreted
	1:30 pm	Signed Mass (last Sunday of each month only)
Wednesdays:	7:00 pm	Simple, quiet Mass

CAUTION

What do Muslims say about Moses?

Muslims respect Moses as one of the greatest Prophets. It is believed that he spoke to God directly. This is what He, the Almighty, says about Moses in His book, "... O Moses! I have chosen you above (other) men, by My Messages and by My speaking (to you). Take then the (revelation) which I have given you, and be of those who give thanks."

— The Holy Qur'an, 7:144

To find out more about Islam, call 301-982-9463 or e-mail us at searchislam@mail.com or visit www.learnaboutislam.org.

An inclusive congregation!

Catholic Community of Greenbelt MASS

Sundays 10 A.M.
Municipal Building


Baha'i Faith

"O people of the world, ye are all the fruit of one tree and the leaves of one branch. Walk with perfect charity, concord, affection, and agreement."
— Baha'u'llah

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To find out more about Islam, call 301-982-9463 or e-mail us at searchislam@mail.com or visit www.learnaboutislam.org.



Md. College Plans Open Enrollment

The College Saving Plans of Maryland announced that the Maryland Prepaid College Trust, offering families an opportunity to lock in tomorrow’s tuition at today’s prices, has opened its 2004-05 enrollment period. This open enrollment will continue through March 18.

New Initiatives

Included in the new enrollment period, the College Savings Plans of Maryland board announced that for the first time since its inception, the Prepaid College Trust is open to 10th through 12th graders. They are now eligible for enrollment and may begin to use their account benefits after three years of investment maturity.

The Prepaid College Trust is also offering two new tuition plans: a one semester plan at a four year university and a one year plan at a community college. These options now offer more affordable ways for families to provide educational opportunities and help to promote gift giving by grandparents and other relatives.

In addition, down payment options have been reduced to 25 percent, 35 percent and 55 percent of the lump sum, with the remainder paid monthly or annually. Annual payments have been extended to allow for more affordable payments over more years.

“Based on our projections, today’s infant who will graduate in 2025 should plan to pay more than \$109,000 in tuition and mandatory fees at a Maryland public college. By enrolling now in the Prepaid College Trust, families could pay one-third to one-half of this projected tuition, even if they pay monthly until their infant graduates from high school,” says Nancy K. Knopp, board chairman and state treasurer.

The Prepaid College Trust will pay full in-state tuition and mandatory fees at any Maryland public college or university when enrolled children reach college age. Tuition benefits may also be applied to nearly all other colleges and universities, public or private, around the nation.

New Rules

The board also announced new rates for the prepaid tuition contracts, with an increase of approximately 10.3 percent, the smallest for the past three years. Payments may be made in a lump sum, annually or monthly. The tuition and mandatory fees at Maryland public colleges, typically set each fall by the University System of Maryland Board of Regents, are key factors in determining rates.

The College Savings Plans of Maryland, an independent state agency, administers the Prepaid College Trust and another tax-advantaged 529 plan – the Maryland College Investment Plan, managed and distributed by T. Rowe Price. The College Investment Plan offers a choice of 12 investment portfolios with no sales commissions or loads. Families may enroll in one or both plans and may be eligible for a Maryland State income tax deduction of up to \$2,500 per account or beneficiary, depending upon the plan.

Because enrolling in a 529 plan is an important decision, the College Savings Plans of Maryland recommends that consumers read all materials carefully. Visit the agency’s website at www.collegesavingsmd.org or call 1-888-4MD-GRAD.



City Information

CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING

Municipal Building-Council Room
February 28, 2005 – 8 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

Community Emergency Response Teams Program (CERT)

Petitions and Requests (Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

***Committee Reports** (Items on the Consent Agenda marked by * will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)

- Board of Elections, Report #05-2 (Early Voting)

LEGISLATION

OTHER BUSINESS

- Request for Purchase of Fire Equipment
- Greenbelt East Traffic-Calming Plan
- Pending State/County Legislation
- *Advisory Board Resignations/Reappointments

MEETINGS

NOTE: This is a preliminary agenda, subject to change. Regular Council meetings are open to the public and all interested citizens are invited to attend. If special accommodations are required for any disabled person, please call 301-474-8000 no later than 10 a.m. on the meeting day. Deaf individuals are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 or e-mail kgallagher@greenbeltmd.gov to reach the City Clerk.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES MEETING

The Advisory Committee on Trees will meet on Monday, February 28, 2005, at 7:30 PM in the Community Meeting Room at the Community Center. All interested persons are welcome to attend. For more info: 301-474-8004.

CALL FOR DESIGNERS TO DESIGN AND MANAGE CONSTRUCTION OF A MEMORIAL HONORING INDIVIDUAL GREENBELT RESIDENTS

The City of Greenbelt is seeking a professional or team of professionals to design and oversee construction of a community memorial. The ideal candidate or team would have experience with exhibit design, architecture and the arts.

For many years, the City has been seeking a method to honor deceased City residents who have demonstrated a high level of service, dedication and commitment to the community. The City has decided to create an official City memorial. Conceptually, the memorial is envisioned as a list of honoree names on a large plaque or sculpture displayed in a prominent location. It would also include a podium or kiosk containing one page of biographical information about each honoree.

Interested designers should contact the City at 301-474-8000 or by email at dmoran@greenbeltmd.gov to request an information package. The deadline for responding to this call is March 31, 2005.

CITY POSITION

PARK RANGER I, Part-time position, \$8/hour

The City of Greenbelt – Recreation Department will be accepting applications for the position of Park Ranger I. Minimum Qualifications: High school diploma or GED, college attendance desirable, some experience in park management, park maintenance management, park administration, recreation, natural sciences, public relations or related subjects desirable; or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Applications deadline is February 25, 2005 at 4:30pm. Applications can be downloaded at www.ci.greenbelt.md.us. For more information contact Greg Varda at 240-542-2194. Applications should be returned to: City of Greenbelt, Attn: Personnel, 25 Crescent Road, 20770.

OPENINGS ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council advisory groups. Vacancies exist on the:

Arts Advisory Board
Public Safety Advisory Committee
Senior Citizens Advisory Committee

For more information, please call 301-474-8000.

Teen Night @ GAFC!

Saturday, February 26

7:45pm

Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center
101 Centerway

Admittance to the pool is only
\$1.00 per teen (13-18 years old).

*Bring your friends and plan to
have a great night!*

Questions? Call the pool: 301-397-2204

YARD WASTE & REFUSE COLLECTION CHANGES

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Effective March 1, 2005, leaves and yard waste will no longer be collected in plastic bags. Instead, these materials MUST BE PLACED IN PAPER YARD BAGS OR YARD WASTE BINS.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Effective March 1, 2005, trash containers must be placed on the STREET SIDE FOR SINGLE FAMILY HOMES AND SERVICE SIDE FOR GHI RESIDENCES by 7AM on your collection day.

Containers must be placed on an all-weather surface and must be serviceable by an all-weather access route.

Every residential refuse collection customer should have received a flyer explaining these changes. (Flyers were mailed to single family residents with their January refuse bill and delivered door-to-door to GHI residents.) If you did not receive this flyer, please call Public Works at 301-474-8004.

GREENBELT RECREATION DEPARTMENT
and GREENBELT ARTS CENTER

THE JOY OF GOLF
SOLD OUT!
Thank you for your support!

Per... 18, 19, 20, 25, and 26. All shows are... Greenbelt Arts Center. Ticket price is \$5. P... in person or by phone at the Community

Attention Greenbelt Community Groups:

The City of Greenbelt offers in-kind services and financial assistance to Greenbelt community groups in support of the cultural, recreational and service opportunities which they provide for Greenbelt residents. New and existing organizations wishing to request support for the period of July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 are invited to contact Anne Marie Belton at 301-474-8000 or abelton@greenbeltmd.gov to request a Recognition Group Application (for in-kind support) or a Contribution Group Application (for in-kind and financial support). Applications are also available at the City of Greenbelt website: www.ci.greenbelt.md.us. Certain eligibility restrictions apply: consult the Policy Information Sheet for Recognition and Contribution Groups, also available at the website, for further details. Completed applications are due February 24, 2005 at the Greenbelt Municipal Building.

BOWLS continued from page 1

needed to create a bowl depends on the artist but in general the process of creating the bowl, allowing it to dry, trimming excess clay, firing it, glazing and firing again can take about a week.

Studio manager John Norden has provided a great deal of assistance to the artists during the process of creating the bowls.

Origins

The Empty Bowls Project was created in 1991 to provide support for food banks, soup kitchens and other organizations that fight hunger. The nonprofit organization Imagine/RENDER was created to promote the project. It has held events throughout the world, raising millions of dollars to combat hunger, with the goal of creating “positive and lasting social change through the arts, education and projects that build community.”

In addition to the Empty Bowls Project, Imagine/RENDER sponsors garden projects to contribute to emergency food providers, workshops and seminars on such topics as sustainable and extended-season gardening and social justice through the arts.

Greenbelt resident Marsha Voigt is one of several hundred volunteers with Help-by-Phone. She serves on its board of directors. She explains that in addition to providing emergency food, Help-by-Phone sponsors two homeless shelters: Safe Haven, which can house up to 15 men; and Warm Nights, which provides temporary housing for families. The locations of these shelters rotate among volunteer churches, which provide meals and bedding with Help-by-Phone providing the cots.

Voigt states that there is a “tremendous shortage of shelters” in the metropolitan area and that Help-by-Phone receives no funds from Prince George’s County.

Volunteer churches maintain food pantries, largely through do-



PHOTO BY PAM HAGERHORST

Each bowl is handmade by Greenbelt potters and is unique.

nations of food and money, with some assistance from Help-by-Phone. Clients calling Help-by-Phone are directed to a food pantry, the location is determined jointly by the Help-by-Phone volunteer and the client, depending on the client’s transportation resources and location. So as to serve as many people as possible, there is a limit on how many times per year a client can receive emergency food.

Last Year

This is not the first such event Greenbelt Pottery has sponsored. In May 2004 the group raised over \$1,300 for Miriam’s Kitchen, an organization that serves the homeless of Washington, D.C., by participating in the “One Hundred Bowls of Compassion” event.

Begun as a day program with the renovation of the Community Center in 1996 and incorporated in 2000, members of Greenbelt Pottery are quick to acknowledge the group’s relationship with the Recreation Department and note that “they wouldn’t be here without it.” Member Pam Hagerhorst calls the pottery studio a “heart and soul place.”

Greenbelter Hosts Book Launching

Peggi Jenyl Trusty has written a book of poems entitled “Unshackled.” The book is a collection of 53 poems varying in subject matter. The poetry captures images from spirituality to love and from 9/11 events to abuse and single parenting. It demonstrates the depth of her thought and her ability to choreograph linguistics in a fanciful dance that appeals to not simply the heart but the lives of readers.

Trusty is a graduate of Bowie State University and Oakwood College in Alabama. She currently lives in Greenbelt. Her interest in writing became clear as a child when she won her first poetry prize in the sixth grade for a poem entitled “Dreams.” She is currently working on her first novel, “Crucified,” which tells a story of conversion during the time of Christ. Excerpts will be available on her website in the near future. Both poetry and story writing have become a realized, long-awaited goal.

Trusty will host a book launch party on March 3 from 6 to 8 p.m. for poetry lovers at the Hyattsville Branch of the Prince George’s County Library System, Adelphi Road, Hyattsville.

Museum Offers Tours in Spanish

College Park Aviation Museum will offer guided tours in Spanish on Saturdays, March 5, April 2 and May 7 at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. The museum tells the story of the historic College Park Airport, founded by the Wright Brothers in 1909. The state-of-the-art museum features vintage aircraft and interactive, family-friendly exhibits. The Spanish-language tours will be led by museum volunteer Dina Louvis, who is a native of Coahuila, Mexico. There is a fee. Free parking is available at the museum at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park.

BURGESS continued from page 1

cookout while Derrick sat inside awaiting his destiny.

Waiting

“We had an idea he was going to get drafted but we didn’t know,” said Burgess. As draft day stretched on, no word was heard until Derrick rushed outside and grabbed his mother, proclaiming, “God is good. God is good.”

“That was the time of our life,” she said with a smile. Though an NFL salary and signing bonus for her son meant a new house for her in Greenbelt and sound financial security, Burgess stayed in the fast food business, taking the job of manager at Boston Market in College Park.

While her kids were growing up, she worked at Wendy’s for over 19 years, contributing well beyond the average number of hours for a manager.

“We were supposed to work 50 hours a week, but I know I worked 60, 70 hours a week,” she said. “Both of my kids [were] raised up in Wendy’s.” A highlight for Burgess was seeing founder Dave Thomas when he came to her store.

“I love what I do. I love managing. I love dealing with people,” she said of her current position. “I’m doing this really for me.” Burgess showed her work ethic during the interview – getting up several times to help a customer or co-worker in need despite her willingness to talk about her son.

Derrick, while a student at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, told her he was “going to get a good job because [he didn’t] like to work hard,” she fondly remembers. Whether this was a planned irony on Derrick’s part is unknown.

Worries

Of injury worries before Derrick’s professional career, Burgess said that staying healthy was more important than the money involved.

“[For] two seasons he was injured real bad,” she said. “Every time he gets out there I’m worried about him.” The worry stems at least partly from past occurrences – Derrick’s father, Willie Cooper, played college football in North Carolina until he separated his right shoulder – never playing again. Derrick’s cousin suffered a similarly devastating injury and Derrick’s own football career has been marred by injury.

When Derrick was young, his mother was wary of the danger involved in football and wanted her son to play basketball instead. Her rationale changed when Derrick received a full scholarship to the University of Mississippi, among other offers.

“When my baby started playing, that made me a fan,” she said.

As a fan, she attended this year’s NFC Championship Game between the Atlanta Falcons and the Philadelphia Eagles. She erupted in cheers as her son sacked Michael Vick to help lead the Eagles to the Super Bowl.

“Everyone was yelling his name. I was yelling, ‘I’m his mom!’” she recalled.

Though her son is 26 with a wife and two kids, Burgess doesn’t fail to take a large role in her son’s life, teaching him to be humble despite his successes.

“I tell him to put God first and go ahead on,” she said.

Ensemble Performs

The UM Symphonic Wind Ensemble will perform on Sunday, February 27 at 3 p.m. in the Dekelbom Concert Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. This is one of the last performances of the ensemble under the direction of John E. Wakefield. Music by Corigliano, Persichetti and Hartley will be highlighted. This concert is free.

GREENBELT, MARYLAND



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Capitol
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05 Buick Lacrosse CX
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\$28,235 MSRP, #8164
\$322²⁵*



'05 Vibe
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\$213¹⁸*



'05 YUKON SLE
\$41,300 MSRP, #8300
\$499⁰⁸*



'05 LaCrosse CX
ABS, Power, AC, \$24,575 MSRP, #8257
\$309⁰³*



'05 G6
\$22,230 MSRP, #8323
\$271⁸⁵*



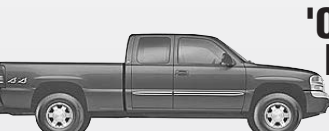
'05 ENVOY XL
\$36,960 MSRP, #8067
\$459⁴²*



'05 Rendezvous
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'05 Aztek
\$24,850 MSRP, #8222
\$262⁷⁶*



**'05 SIERRA 1500
EXT. CAB 2WD**
\$26,135 MSRP, #8259
\$284²⁴*

**UP TO
\$500
DEALER BONUS CASH**
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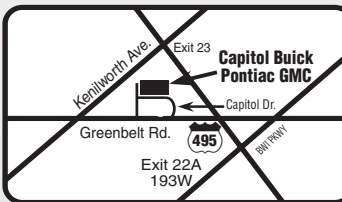
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6500 Capitol Drive • Greenbelt, MD 20777

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*“Your Local Full Service
Community Owned
Supermarket & Pharmacy”*

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Farm Fresh Produce			
Imported Seedless Grapes Red-Black-White	99¢ lb.	Tender Asparagus Spears	\$1 ⁴⁹ lb.
Washington State Crunchy Apples Royal Gala-Fuji	99¢	California Navel Oranges 8 lb. Bag	\$3 ⁹⁹
Grade A Red Potatoes 5 lb. Bag	\$1 ⁹⁹	Nutritious Broccoli Crowns	\$1 ²⁹ lb.

Fresh Quality Meats			
Chef's Fresh Beef Boneless New York Strip Steak	\$5 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Grade A Pick-Of-The-Chick	99¢ lb.
Fresh 80% Lean Ground Chuck Beef	\$1 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Shurfine Whole Frying Chicken	99¢ lb.
Fresh Lean Pork Boneless Pork Loin Roast	\$2 ⁹⁹ lb.	Fresh Young Chicken Leg Quarters 10 lb. Bag.	\$3 ⁹⁰
Blackwing Ostrich Fillet	\$4 ⁹⁹ 6 oz.	Delicious Hot-To-Go Soup Bar	\$2 ⁶⁹ lb.

DAIRY	DELI	FROZEN
Minute Maid Premium Orange Juice Assorted 64 oz.	New! Co-Op Carver All Natural Roast Beef	Turkey Hill Ice Cream Assorted 56 oz.
Land-O-Lakes Chunk Cheddar Cheese 8 oz.	Oven Roasted Turkey Breast	McCain Potatoes
Blue Bonnet Vegetable Spread Bowl-Quarters 1 lb.	Fresh Brewed Green Mountain Hot Coffee 16 oz. Cup	Fries-Roasters Assorted 24-32 oz.
Coffee-Mate Flavored Creamer Assorted 32 oz.		Banquet Pot Pies Beef-Chicken-Turkey 7 oz.
HEALTH & BEAUTY	SEAFOOD	NATURAL & GOURMET
Western Family Ibuprofen Tablets-Caplets 24 Pk.	All Natural Frozen Icelandic Pollock Fillets	Lipton Herbal Tea Bags Lemon-Orange-Apple-Chamomile
Pepsodent Toothpaste	Fresh Salmon Fillets	Knudsen Organic Apple Juice
		Hot Pockets-Lean Pockets-Croissant Pockets Assorted 8-14 oz.
		Fresh Baked Cuisine De France French Baguette
		Instore Baked Organic Sesame Semolina Bread

Shurfine Caffeinated Ground Coffee Regular-Colombian-French 11-13 oz. Can	Wisk Ultra Liquid Laundry Detergent 100 oz.	GROCERY BARGAINS		Kleenex Facial Tissues Assorted 120-230 Pk.	Duncan Hines Brownie Mix Assorted 16-18 oz.
99¢	\$4 ⁰⁰	Bertolli Pasta Sauce Assorted 17-26 oz.	\$2 ⁰⁰	2/\$3	2/\$3
StarKist Chunk White Albacore Tuna 6 oz.	Shurfine Tomatoes Assorted 28-29 oz.	San Giorgio Spaghetti- Vermicelli- Elbow Mac- Ziti-Rotelle 1 lb.	BUY ONE GET ONE FREE	Nabisco Premium Saltine Crackers 11-16 oz.	Kellogg's Family Size Pop Tarts Assorted 21-22 oz.
88¢	4/\$3			\$2 ⁰⁰	\$2 ⁰⁰

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	Stimson Estate Wines 1.5 Liter \$9⁹⁹	Milwaukee's Best Beer 6 Pk.-12 oz. Cans \$2⁹⁹	Stonehaven Wines 750 ML. \$4⁹⁹	<ul style="list-style-type: none">■ We Honor Most Prescription Plans■ Medicare Billing■ Courteous, Knowledgeable Staff■ Free Home Delivery Of Prescriptions Mon.—Wed.—Fri.■ Free Blood Pressure Tester■ Durable Medical Equipment Sales & Rental
	Black Label Beer 12 Pk.-12 oz. Cans \$5³⁹	Carlo Rossi Wines 3 Liter \$8⁶⁹	Dundee's Honey Brown Lager 12 Pk.-12 oz. NR's \$8⁹⁹	

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	28	1	2	3	4	5
6						

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Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department. Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Robbery

February 10, 11:16 a.m., Beltway Plaza Mall, a manager at the Game Stop store, reported that two men entered the store and reserved a video game. A short time later, they returned to the store, with one of them displaying a handgun and announcing a robbery. After obtaining an undisclosed amount of money, they fled the scene, possibly in a vehicle described as an “old and dirty” white van bearing unknown D.C. tags. The suspects are described as two black males in their twenties, one is 6’1" with a heavy build and black hair, wearing a camouflage jacket, a white T-shirt, blue jeans and tan boots. The other is 6’2" with a thin build, wearing a gray sweat jacket and blue jeans.

February 12, 2:23 p.m., 5700 block Cherrywood Lane, a non-resident man was arrested and charged with attempted armed robbery, first degree assault, second degree assault, carrying a concealed deadly weapon and carrying a deadly weapon with intent to injure after he allegedly produced a knife and attempted to rob a man after the victim refused to give the suspect change as he was leaving a convenience store. The suspect was located a short time later still asking passersby for change. He was arrested and a knife was recovered. He was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner.

February 14, 9:03 a.m., Greenway Center, a manager at Advanced Auto Parts, reported that he was in the office when he observed a man at the open office door. The man displayed a handgun and ordered the manager to give him money from the safe. After obtaining an undisclosed amount of money, the man, along with a second man who stood outside the office as a lookout, fled the scene in a vehicle described as a white van with unknown D.C. tags. The suspects are described as two black males, one is 40 to 49 years of age, 5’10" with a beard, wearing a black hooded jacket and black pants. The other is 5’8" with a stocky build, wearing a dark green jacket.

February 15, 1:00 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Court, the victims stated that they were walking to a residence when they were approached by two men, one armed with a handgun. The men demanded money from the victims and removed a wallet from one of the victim’s pants pocket. Both suspects then fled the scene on foot. They are described as two black males. One is approximately 30 years of age, 6’1", 180 pounds with black hair, a mustache and a light complexion, wearing dark clothing. The other is approximately 20 years of age, 5’11", 150 pounds with black hair, wearing a dark jacket, light blue jeans and a black cap.

February 16, 9:18 p.m.,

Greenway Center, a store manager at Modell’s Sporting Goods stated that three men, who appeared to be intoxicated, entered the store and began removing shoes from boxes on the shelf. When the manager approached the men as they attempted to leave without paying for the merchandise, one of the men threatened him and made motions as if he was going to assault the manager. They then fled the store. The suspects are described as three black males, one in his forties, 5’8" to 5’9" with a thin build, a goatee and a dark complexion, wearing a black “puffy” jacket, black jeans, tennis shoes and glasses. A second is in his twenties, 5’8" to 5’9" with an average build and a light complexion, wearing a green “puffy” jacket, blue jeans, black shoes and a winter hat.

February 17, 12:48 p.m., Beltway Plaza Mall, a woman reported that she was walking to the Bank of America to make a deposit when she was approached by a man who demanded her bank deposit bag. After obtaining the bag, the man fled the scene on foot. The suspect is described as a black male in his twenties, 6’2", 200 pounds, wearing a white shirt, gray sweatpants and some sort of a mask over part of his face.

February 17, 11:47 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Lane, a food delivery person reported that she had just made a delivery and was walking back to her vehicle when she was approached by two men, one brandishing a knife. They demanded money from the delivery person and after obtaining an undisclosed amount of money fled the scene on foot. The suspects are described as two black males, 5’11", wearing all dark clothing. One is approximately 17 years of age, 170 pounds, with black hair and the other is approximately 20 years of age and 120 pounds.

Carjacking

February 12, 1:44 a.m., 6000 block Springhill Drive, a man reported that he had parked his vehicle and was getting out when he was approached by another man, who displayed a handgun and demanded his car keys. After obtaining the keys, the suspect told the victim to walk away and then left in the victim’s vehicle, described as a white 1999 Plymouth van, Maryland tags 242M460. The suspect is described as a black male, 6' to 6’2", 190 pounds with brown hair in braids, brown eyes and a medium complexion, wearing a black jacket, black jeans and a black skull cap.

Assault

February 8, 5:31 p.m., Cherrywood Terrace and Breezewood Court, a youth reported that he was walking home from Greenbelt Middle School when the suspect allegedly approached him from behind, held a knife to his throat, warning the youth, “don’t look at me like that,” then fled the scene on foot. The

youth was not injured. The suspect is described as a black male, 5’9" with a thin build, black hair in shoulder-length dread-locks, wearing black warm-up pants and a black T-shirt.

DWI

January 30, Beltway Plaza Mall, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence, negligent driving and leaving the scene of an accident during the investigation of a motor vehicle accident. He was released on citations pending trial.

February 9, 12:51 a.m., Kenilworth Avenue and I-495, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with driving while impaired, driving under the influence, driving while suspended and driving without a license after police observed an occupied vehicle stopped in the roadway. He was released on citations pending trial.

February 13, 4:08 p.m., 100 block Northway, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with possession of paraphernalia, driving while impaired and driving under the influence after he returned to the scene of a domestic argument. Located in the vehicle was paraphernalia commonly used to smoke marijuana. He was released on citation pending trial.

Drugs

February 12, 9:10 p.m., 8400 block Canning Terrace, a resident youth was arrested for possession of marijuana when police responded to a report of a trespasser. When the youth was located police detected the odor of what was believed to be marijuana coming from the youth. The youth was found to be in possession of a quantity of suspected marijuana and was released to a parent pending action by the Juvenile Justice System.

Theft

February 16, 4:52 p.m., Greenbelt Citgo, unknown person(s) removed a gas pump nozzle from a pump at the gas station.

Trespass

February 11, 9:36 a.m., 6100 block Breezewood Drive, two resident men were arrested and charged with trespass after they were found sleeping in a vacant apartment. Both were released on citation pending trial.

February 15, 4:43 p.m., 5800 block Cherrywood Terrace, a nonresident man was arrested and charged with trespass after he was observed on the grounds of Springhill Lake Apartments after having been banned by agents of the property. A computer check also revealed that he had an open warrant with the Prince George’s County Sheriff’s Department. The man was released to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a district court commissioner and for service of the warrant.

Vandalism

February 17, 1:39 p.m., Gardenway footpath, unknown person(s) spray painted graffiti on the sidewalk.

February 17, 5:24 p.m., 6100 block Springhill Terrace, unknown person(s) wrote racial graffiti on a building.

Burglary

February 17, 5:39 a.m., 6300 block Ivy Lane, a commercial burglary was reported.

Vehicle Crimes

The following vehicles were stolen: a 2001 Honda Accord 4-door from the 7400 block Greenway Center Drive; a black 1993 Ford Taurus 4-door, Maryland tags JYA392 from the 5900 block Cherrywood Terrace; a black 2002 Dodge Intrepid 4-door, Maryland tags 1AGS51 from the 7800 block Cloister Place; a 1996 Ford Crown Victoria 4-door from the 7400 block Morrison Drive; a gray 2003 Toyota Corolla 4-door, Maryland tags KCT820 from the 400 block Ridge Road; a red 1993 Honda Prelude 2-door, Maryland tags 637BGX from the 7500 block Greenbrook Drive; and a beige 1998 Dodge Envoy, Maryland tags 138M514.

Five vehicles were recovered, three by Greenbelt police and two by other police departments. No arrests were made in any of the recoveries.

Thefts and attempted thefts from vehicles were reported in the following areas: 7100 block of Mathew Street, 7700 block Mandan Road, 7800 block Hanover Parkway (two incidents), Greenway Place, unit block Lakeside Drive and 5900 block Cherrywood Lane.

Univ. of Maryland Orchestra Performs

The UM Repertoire Orchestra, with music directors Maurice Boyer and Paul Kim, will present a concert on Monday, February 28, 8 p.m. in the Dekelboum Concert Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center on the College Park Campus. Presented by the UM School of Music, this concert is free.

Hybrid Car Parade Supports Clean Cars

On Saturday February 26 a caravan of hybrid vehicles from Prince George’s County including a contingent from Greenbelt will leave for Annapolis to join over 100 hybrid cars from the region to show support for the Maryland Clean Cars Act. The cars will drive in circles around the Maryland Statehouse and the Governor’s Mansion and then drivers will meet on foot for a rally to promote the bill.

The parade, to begin at noon, will come just days before the Maryland House of Delegates holds a hearing on the Clean Cars Act. This bill would add Maryland to a list of eight other states, including California and New Jersey, that require the sale of cleaner cars within their states.

Separate caravans of hybrid vehicles will leave rendezvous sites on Saturday morning from Frederick, Salisbury, Washington, D.C., Montgomery County and Baltimore. The caravans will converge in Annapolis at the Navy football stadium parking lot for the parade through the capital. The post-parade rally, set to begin at 1 p.m., will feature elected officials, health experts and environmental leaders.

The caravan from Prince George’s County will gather in parking lot A of Prince George’s Community College, 301 Largo Road in Largo, at 9:45 a.m.

For more information visit http://chesapeakeclimate.org/clean_cars.htm.

County Employers Offer Job Fair

Prince George’s Community College is hosting a Diversity Career Job Fair. Employers attending will include M-NCPPC (full-time, part-time, trade jobs and summer jobs), Lowe’s, Hecht’s, Marshalls, Prince George’s County government and more. The job fair will take place at Prince George’s Community College, Largo Student Center, 301 Largo Road on Saturday, February 26 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For information call 301-454-1411 or visit <http://www.mncppc.org/jobs/>.



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The Department is offering a reward of up to \$500 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter. Citizens may anonymously report suspected drug activity by calling the Drug Tip Line at 301-507-6522.

Fire & Rescue Log

The Fire Department Log is a bi-weekly report of the activities and news from the Greenbelt Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad, Inc. (GVFD). The report includes recent incidents, GVFD news and upcoming events, fire safety and other fire department related information.

Incident Report

From February 5 to February 18 the GVFD responded to a total of 51 engine and 76 ambulance calls. Among those calls were 17 reports of smoke or fire, one automatic fire alarm, 24 motor vehicle accidents and 61 medical calls.

Emergency Vehicles

Maryland law requires vehicle drivers to move to the curb and stop when an emergency vehicle is approaching. On a divided highway vehicles should move to the nearest shoulder but not cross in front of the emergency vehicle. When an emergency vehicle using its lights and sirens approaches, motorists should not panic, not make rash moves that can be dangerous and not pull back out into traffic without first checking rear-view mirrors to make certain other emergency vehicles are not approaching. At an intersection motorists should make every ef-

fort to get out of an approaching emergency vehicle's way but not enter the intersection in front of on-coming traffic on a red light. Most importantly motorists should never pass or ride alongside an emergency vehicle with its lights and sirens on and should remain well behind the vehicle.

Volunteers Sought

The GVFD seeks volunteers age 16 and up to become firefighters, emergency medical technicians or perform administrative work. All training is provided and the time commitment is flexible. For information call the station at 301-345-7000, visit the website at www.engine35.com or stop by the station to speak with an officer.

Questions and comments regarding this report or any fire department issues can be directed to public-info@engine35.com or to 301-345-7000.

Girl Scouts in Free At Aviation Museum

In honor of Girl Scout Week, the College Park Aviation Museum is offering free admission to Girl Scouts in uniform on Sunday, March 6. Free parking is available at the museum, which is located at 1985 Cpl. Frank Scott Drive, College Park.

Metzger Invites Jazz Lovers to Class

Delve into the mind of jazz vibist and composer Jon Metzger, who coaches University of Maryland students in a music master class on Monday, February 28 at 10:30 a.m. The free program takes place in the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.

MURPHY continued from page 1

Back Fund, a nonprofit group that raises funds for future terrorist victims. Performing were about 100 skaters, young and old, from amateur to former Olympians like Nancy Kerrigan. Murphy had sent an audition tape to the organizers last summer and had the good fortune several weeks later to be chosen to perform.

For the Murphy family, there's a special meaning for taking part in the event. Alice's younger brother was friends with a young girl who, along with her family, was on the plane that crashed into the Pentagon that morning. In the end, Murphy felt it was a proper way not only to honor them but everyone else who died that day.

As Murphy goes back to practicing with her coach for a local competition this February, her mother Susy is proud of her

daughter. "She's always done a good job balancing different things. It's great. Since skating requires strong focus and discipline, she uses that approach to other tasks like her schoolwork," she said.

Her coach, Christine Brinton, also praised Murphy for her work ethic. "She practices hard on every lesson and tries her best to perfect every new movement she learns," said Brinton.

In addition to her practices, Murphy volunteers to help instructors teach figure skating to young children at Wells Ice Rink in College Park. When asked what makes a good skater, she thinks a combination of training hard and good coaching are important. "You can be a talented jumper but your spins might not look good. It's all about skaters looking artistic and graceful in their form," said Murphy.

Wells Ice Rink Holds Sunday Competition

Six different ice rinks ranging from Maryland to New Jersey are sending skaters to compete at Wells Ice Rink on Sunday, February 27 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Beginners to advanced skaters will compete in this free event. Among the participants are Greenbelters Charlie and Alice Murphy, Chris Bonnell and Abby Feresten.

A group from Wells Ice Rink won first place at another competition last weekend with a production number of "Oklahoma." Suzy Murphy, mother of Charlie and Alice, told the News Review, "we hope to win again this Sunday."

Wells Ice Rink is located at 5211 Paint Branch Parkway, College Park.



ELECTRIC continued from page 1

Opt-out aggregation allows for a large enough pool of customers to negotiate favorable terms and avoid marketing costs. The reduced expenses of opt-out aggregation are passed on as savings for residents.

Under terms of the legislation, the Public Service Commission could not approve an aggregation request by a municipality (or group of municipalities) unless the city or town can provide lower electricity rates than the standard offer service rates.

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Prince George's County announces

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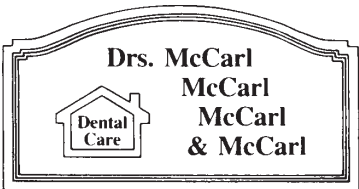
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Bands Perform

John E. Wakefield conducts a performance by all-campus ensembles of the Maryland bands program presented by the University of Maryland School of Music on Wednesday, March 2 at 8 p.m. in the Dekelboun Concert Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. The performance is free.

UM Presents Jazz

Vibist/composer Jon Metzger joins University of Maryland students to perform his original work "Zoroastrian Thunder," written for percussion ensemble and jazz quintet. This free performance will be Tuesday, March 1 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gildenhorn Recital Hall of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center.



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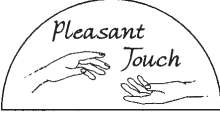
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Wonderful 6 bedroom 4 bath home that backs to Greenbelt Lake Park. Lots of space for you and your family. Now available at \$599,900

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This 2-story, 2 bedroom interior unit has a slate roof and many decorator touches throughout. Co-op living is a great way to live! \$189,900

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Modern 3-story townhome near the heart of Takoma Park. The owner has completed many renovations including heat/ac & hwh. \$289,900

Cul-de-sac In Lakewood
Come see this wonderful home on a quiet cul-de-sac. Less than a 5-minute walk to Roosevelt Center! Finished basement. SOLD

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Lots of space for your family in this brick home. Extra-large bedrooms on top floor, bed & bath on main level & large fenced yard. SOLD

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Single Family Home - Ridge Road
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U.C. = Under contract; seller may consider back-up offers

City Notes

Code enforcement staff re-inspected Greenway Center; six municipal infractions were issued for failure to abate violations. Three complaints were received for lights out at Roosevelt Center.

Construction/sediment erosion control staff inspected installation of water lines for the Animal Control Facility, issued a stop work order for sediment erosion control violations at the USPS facility at 7600 Ora Glen Drive and issued municipal infractions for Verizon work at Greenbrook Drive and Hanover Parkway.

Parking enforcement monitored handicap spaces at the Giant Food store in response to a citizen complaint.

Planning staff filed revisions with Prince George’s County for an observatory permit and began preparation of briefing for Greenbelt Homes, Inc., Board of Directors on potential local historic district designation.

Public Works

Streets crew repaired potholes and straightened and replaced signs throughout the city and removed bricks from the crosswalks at the Co-op and at the Municipal Building to inspect the sub-base for repair.

Facilities maintenance crew ordered a new fire alarm panel for the police station and continued work on the window project in the Municipal Building.

Horticulture crew removed two large pine trees in the buffer zone on Hanover Parkway near Hunting Ridge to prepare for the installation of a drain.

Vehicle mechanics replaced the belts and exhaust system and welded a metal piece on the rear hopper of the street sweeper.

Parks crews removed a tree-damaged bus shelter on Crescent Road at Greenhill. Weather permitting, it will be replaced next week. They also began installing the new climber at the 73 Court Ridge Road playground.

Administration/Youth Center staff planned spring youth trips to various University of Maryland sporting events.

Community Center staff attended a meeting with a lighting company for a quote on stage lights. Tickets for all five performances of “Joy Gods Return” sold out on Friday morning.

Find the Wildlife At Patuxent Refuge

Four public programs will be offered next week at the Patuxent Refuge. At the North Tract, on Route 198 between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Route 32, a bird walk for all ages will be held on Saturday, March 5, 8 to 10 a.m. Field guides and binoculars are recommended.

Also at the North Tract, “Owl Prowl” will be held on the same day from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and is open to all.

At the Visitor Center on Powder Mill Rd. between the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and Route 197, “Nature Tots: Busy Bees” will be held on Tuesday, March 1, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and again from 1 to 2 p.m. It will introduce children ages 3 to 4 to the world of honeybees. On Thursday, March 10, a “Forest Discovery Hike” will be held from 3:45 to 5 p.m. for children 8 to 10 years old.

All events are free but advance reservations must be made by calling 301-497-5887.

Legion Oratorical Contest Has Only One Presenter

by Matt Johnson

Last Sunday four local high school students were invited by the American Legionnaires of Greenbelt to participate in their annual oratorical contest for a chance to win money for college. None showed up.

However, all was not lost. A junior orator from Eleanor Roosevelt High School stepped in to save the day. College Park resident Deborah Shroder represented American Legion Post 217 with a prepared speech on the U.S. Constitution and an analysis of the Fifth Amendment.

Shroder, a chemistry lover, took up oration at the urging of her neighbor Bill Robertson, also present at the event.

While not an official contestant, she delighted the audience of Knights (of Columbus) and Legionnaires, stressing as important such democratic practices as voting and paying taxes.

“If you do not vote, you become like unto a slave,” she said, mindful of her 10-minute cutoff time in the contest simulation. Shroder received a \$100 donation for her presentation.

A panel of five judges presided, including Mayor Judith F. Davis. Davis saw the contest as a good way for a young person to “get involved in being an American” and become a future leader. Other judges included a board member from Prince George’s County schools and a local attorney.

Presentation

Immediately following the oration was the Pete Labukas Tootsie Roll Bowl game ball presentation. The ball, exhibiting the signatures of those who played in the Tootsie Roll Campaign’s fifth annual flag football game last Veterans’ Day, was presented to Fidelia Nwachukwu and her daughter Ucee.

“I feel so proud,” said the widowed Nwachukwu, whose husband Ignatius died last October. Brother Knight Ignatius

Nwachukwu was honored along with Labukas, a former college football player and high school football coach who died in 1998. The late Labukas was also a World War II veteran and founder of the Tootsie Roll Campaign.

The Tootsie Roll Campaign is a state project to raise funds for the mentally handicapped, explained Pete’s daughter Kathy Labukas, who was present on Sunday.

Larry Hilliard, a warden in the Knights and an event organizer, said he would choose the word “irony” above all others to describe this event. Among other ironies, the game ball presentation took place on the same day in which the New England Patriots defeated the Philadelphia Eagles to win its third Superbowl in four years.

When the presentations were over and the refreshments served, the question still remained as to why the contestants did not show up, knowing they would have the opportunity to win money for college.

“Out of 14 years only one has been successful,” said Legionnaire Tony Sanchez, the official timekeeper, regarding the oratorical contest’s history at the Greenbelt Legion. Sanchez and others were confused as to why local high schoolers, who have what it takes to compete, would pass up the opportunity to do so.

Shroder said with some certainty that the lack of show was due to “lack of efficient communication between the [American Legion] Post and the high schools.”

Despite the contestant turnout, Davis commended Paul Durance and the rest of the Legionnaires for their determination in organizing the contest.

“It’s got to be a big disappointment but they’re going to be willing to do this again next year,” she said.



In front (from left) Ucee and her mother Fidelia Nwachukwu, sisters Liz and Kathy Labukas and Agnes and Knights of Columbus member Austin Conaty. Back row (from left) are Knights of Columbus members Larry Hilliard, Paul Sabol, David Lockwood and John Winfrey; and Ed Rupert, American Legion Post Commander.

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Hospital Hosts Cancer Workshop

Doctors Community Hospital will host “I Can Cope” workshops on Wednesdays, March 9, 16, 23 and 30 from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the hospital campus at 8118 Good Luck Road, Lanham.

“I Can Cope” is a free educational program for adults with cancer and their loved ones. The four-session workshop offers several courses designed to help participants cope with their cancer experience by increasing their knowledge, positive attitude and skills.

For more information or to register for the workshops call Bobbi Pearson at 301-552-8209 or Ava Stevens at 301-474-1386. Registration for this free workshop is required. Refreshments are provided.

Nursery School Open House Feb. 26

Greenbelt Nursery School will begin accepting applications for school year 2005 – 2006 at an open house on Saturday, February 26 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The school is a parent co-operative offering classes for children ages 2, 3 and 4. Full-day educational programs are available.

Greenbelt Nursery School is certified by the Maryland State Department of Education and accredited by NAEYC’s National Academy of Early Childhood Programs.

Families seeking pre-school programs are invited to attend the open house, meet the director and teachers, view the classrooms and get information about the programs. For information call the school at 301-474-5570 or visit its website at www.greenbelt.com/gnsk.

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